incentives, phasing out of old commercial vehicles etc. have been taken.

Closure of SSI units

213. PROF. M. M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the major factors responsible for closure of small and medium scale industrial units in different parts of the country;

(b) the number of labourers rendered jobless in these closed units, category-wise; and

(c) the steps Government have taken to provide employment to these experienced workers and technicians?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) The major factors responsible for sickness/closure of small and medium scale industrial units are inadequacy of credit, technological obsolescence, marketing problems, managerial inadequacies etc. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) maintains data on sick SSI units and not for closed units. The data on number of labourers rendered jobless as a result of closure of industrial units is not maintained by the RBI.

(c) Government has been providing assistance under Counselling and Retraining Scheme for counselling, retraining and redeployment of workers rationalised from organised sector. As on 31.01.2001, 71,604 rationalised workers have been counselled, 53,574 retrained and 18,219 redeployed.